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USDA Rural Development meeting set

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TOPEKA, Kan. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture will host a Fort Leavenworth Regional Initiative informational meeting at 1 p.m. Aug. 29 at the Frontier Conference Center.

The meeting will cover USDA Rural Development programs available to support regions in Kansas affected by the Base Realignment and Closure process.

"USDA Rural Development's Fort Leavenworth Regional Initiative will provide an excellent opportunity for communities benefiting from last year's BRAC decision relating to Fort Leavenworth to expand affordable housing opportunities, along with enhancing local infrastructure," said USDA Rural Development State Director Chuck Banks. "Whether it be improving local housing or upgrading community projects such as health care services, USDA Rural Development is positioned to assist in this important Kansas economic development opportunity."

USDA Rural Development's Aug. 29 meeting will cover the agency's housing programs and community development programs.

Breakout sessions will be presented for homebuilders and developers, real estate agents and mortgage lenders, public bodies (infrastructure and community facilities), business development entities and commercial lenders, and community nonprofit and faith-based organizations.

Registration will begin at 1 p.m., with the general session and breakout sessions from 1:30-4:15 p.m.

Additional information about the meeting, along with the USDA Rural Development's Fort Leavenworth Regional Initiative, can be obtained by contacting the agency's Oskaloosa, Kan., office at (785) 863-2221 (extension 4).

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs that support increasing economic opportunities and enhance the quality of life for rural Americans. As a venture capital entity, USDA Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure in rural America.

For more information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the agency at (785) 271-2700 or visit the agency's Kansas Web site at www.rurdev.usda.gov/ks.